

REMARKS

At the time the office action was mailed, claims 12-57 were pending. The Examiner rejected claims 12-57. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 12-57 in view of the remarks set forth below.

Nonstatutory Double Patenting Rejection

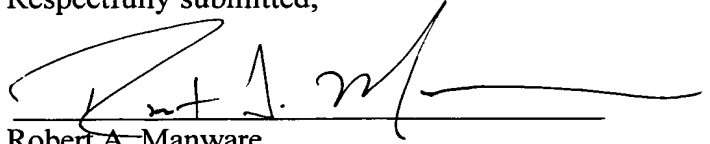
The Examiner rejected claims 12-57 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,684,292. Applicants note that the present application (10/690,139) is a divisional application of the referenced patent. Applicants submit a properly executed terminal disclaimer, attached hereto. Applicants respectfully submit that the terminal disclaimer obviates the Examiner's obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

Applicants note that claims 12-57 were indeed presented in the parent application (now U.S. Patent No. 6,684,292). During an Examiner's Interview conducted on July 21, 2003, Mike Fletcher (Reg. No. 32,777) authorized the Examiner to cancel claims 12-57 of the parent application in order to place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, the instant claims were previously presented.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection and allowance of claims 12-57. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert A. Manware", written over a horizontal line.

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